

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A recording apparatus comprising:
 - a printing head which has a plurality of recording elements and performs recording on a recording medium;
 - a head holder which holds the printing head;
 - a flexible wiring board which is disposed on the outer side of the head holder and comprises: a flexible insulating band; a plurality of conductive wires; and a driver element for actuating the printing head, the conductive wires and the driver element being disposed on the flexible insulating band; and
 - a heatsink which is disposed between the flexible wiring board and the head holder and releases heat generated by the driver element.
2. The recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the heatsink is directly held in close contact with a surface of the flexible wiring board which surface is opposite to another surface of the flexible wiring board on which the driver element is disposed, at a position corresponding to a position in the another surface where the driver element is disposed.
3. The recording apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the heatsink is spaced from the outer surface of the head holder with a first clearance therebetween.
4. The recording apparatus according to claim 3,

wherein the first clearance is open to the atmosphere in its opposite ends in a direction of movement of the printing head.

5. The recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the heatsink comprises a first portion disposed between the flexible wiring board and the head holder and a second portion extending from an edge of the first portion into a space other than between the flexible wiring board and the head holder.

6. The recording apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the head holder is a substantially L-shaped member comprising a first wall supporting the printing head and a second wall substantially vertically extending from an edge of the first wall, and a relay circuit board to which the flexible wiring board is connected is disposed on the outer side of the second wall with a space therebetween,

and wherein the first portion of the heatsink extends from the vicinity of a connecting portion where the edge of the first wall and an edge of the second wall are connected, while the second portion of the heatsink extends into a space between the relay circuit board and the head holder.

7. The recording apparatus according to claim 6, wherein there is a second clearance between the heatsink and the relay circuit board.

8. The recording apparatus according to claim 7,

wherein the second clearance between the heatsink and the relay circuit board is open to the atmosphere in its opposite ends in a direction of movement of the printing head.

9. The recording apparatus according to claim 6, wherein:

the flexible wiring board connects the printing head fixed to the first wall and the relay circuit board which is spaced from the second wall and is substantially parallel to the second wall, the flexible wiring board including a slant portion which obliquely extending at a blunt angle with both the first wall and the second wall and on which the driver element is fixed; and

the first portion of the heatsink serves as a contact portion and is held in contact with the surface of the flexible wiring board which surface is opposite to the another surface of the flexible wiring board on which the driver element is disposed, at the position corresponding to the position in the another surface on which the driver element is disposed, and the second portion of the heatsink extends from the edge of the first portion on the side of the relay circuit board into the space between the second wall and the relay circuit board.

10. The recording apparatus according to claim 1, further comprises a carriage which is movable in a direction substantially parallel to the recording medium, and wherein the heatsink has a planar surface substantially parallel to a direction of movement of the carriage.

11. The recording apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising: a cover which protects the flexible wiring board; and an elastic member provided between the driver element and the cover, the driver element being pressed toward the heatsink by a pressing force of the elastic member.

12. The recording apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising: a cover which protects the flexible wiring board; and an elastic member provided between the driver element and the cover, the driver element being pressed to the heatsink via the flexible wiring board, by a pressing force of the elastic member.

13. The recording apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the second wall extends substantially vertically in a direction opposite to the direction of the gravity from the first wall, and the heatsink extends in the same direction from the vicinity of the connecting portion of the edge of the first wall and the edge of the second wall, in substantially parallel to the second wall.

14. The recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a portion of the surface of the heatsink to be opposed to the head holder, which portion comprises a first area corresponding to the driver element and a second area surrounding and adjacent to the first area, is not in contact with

the head holder.